

# BAME STAFF NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 October 2017

## In this issue:

- Black History Month
- BUAFTAs
- Well-Being Week
- Meeting the HR Director
- Network Opportunities
- BAME Staff Christmas Party

## Hi everyone,

No doubt, you are all still busy with various student and staff activities as we settle into the new term. There has been much work going on behind the scenes – developing the [webpage](#), co-ordinating the Black History Programme, organising merchandise, involvement in Well-Being week and Lapworth Museum opportunities, work undertaken collaborating with the other Networks, and we also now have a BAME Network secretary! There is still much to do and the meeting with Nigel Waugh, Director of HR will be an important step forward as we progress equality and diversity amongst our staff members.

*Beverley and Natasha* Co-Chairs, BAME Staff Network

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Samuel Coleridge-Taylor



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH - 1<sup>ST</sup> – 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER

The Black History Programme this year offers a variety of activities across the University. Launched on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, the full programme is available on the [BHM webpage](#).

Why don't you visit The Barber and see the exhibition of Samuel Coleridge – Taylor? He was the first Black British born composer, famous for "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast". The exhibition is on until 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Or why not book to go along to the [Race Equality in Higher Education conference 'what's it got to do with you?'](#) on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October. It would be great to see as many people as possible at these events.

## BUAFTAs - 2<sup>nd</sup>- 30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

Nominations are now open for Professional Services staff. Staff and students are invited to make nominations in 10 different categories. Winners will be announced at the celebration event on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018. For further information and to make your nominations for BUAFTAs 2018 see the [webpages](#). **Please do nominate. BAME staff are under-represented.**

## WELL-BEING WEEK - 9<sup>TH</sup> – 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

To find out more about what's available on campus during this week, see the [Wellbeing webpages](#). Welfare advisers from the BAME Network attended 'Coffee and Connect' on Tuesday and will also be in Staff House on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October from 12.00-2.00pm. Please [email](#) the welfare advisers if you have any welfare concerns.

## MEETING WITH THE DIRECTOR OF HR – Nigel Waugh

Nigel has been invited to meet with the Network next week. We will have an opportunity to talk openly about recruitment, working at the University and issues around equality and diversity as it relates to employment and promotion. Nigel would also like to discuss an initiative to run a recruitment campaign focussed on appointing a number of “Birmingham BAME Fellows”. The objectives of the campaign would be to increase the representation of BAME staff at the University, where we know they are under-represented. This is an **important meeting**, so please feel free to email the Chairs if you think there is anything we should be raising with Nigel at the meeting.

### NETWORK OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Merchandising and Branding** – we now have a banner, postcards and A4 posters. We are also working alongside the other Networks and we should be receiving items to publicise the BAME Network including pens, mugs, t-shirts, badges etc. If you would like to use any merchandise at an event or workshop, please [contact us](#) to find out if it is possible.
- **Lapworth Museum and BAME Network Consultation** – we have been working to organise focus group sessions that the Museum would like to run with BAME Network members. An email with details will be sent to everyone on the Network distribution list shortly with further details.
- **Staff Network Coffee Catch-Ups** – we will be holding regular informal catch-ups on the following dates from 12.30-1.30pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Bramall:
  - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October
  - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November
  - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Please pop in for a coffee/tea and a cake. There will be people available from all of the Staff Networks to chat with informally. Dates for after Christmas will be circulated in due course.

If you have any ideas for future events, please contact our event coordinator Lorraine Mighty at [L.Mighty@bham.ac.uk](mailto:L.Mighty@bham.ac.uk)

## CHRISTMAS PARTY – Save the date: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm – 10.00pm



We are organising a BAME Staff Network Christmas party, which we hope you will all attend. We have booked St Francis Hall, University Multi-Faith Chaplaincy which is a really nice space. This will be the event of the year with good food, drink, music, dancing, singing and general merriment. This is where you will let your hair down and have some fun. More details to follow...but don't forget to save the date. Volunteers needed please email [bamestaff@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:bamestaff@contacts.bham.ac.uk) if you would like to get involved!